(b) in how many cases disciplinary proceedings were initiated; and

(c) in how many such cases, orders of the disciplinary authority were revised by the Director of Printing in his capacity of Revisionary Authority?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) During the last five years, 77 cases of subletting of Minto Road Press Pool Quarters have been detected and in 68 such cases, possession has been taken back.

(b) Disciplinary proceedings have been initiated in one case.

(c) Orders of the disciplinary authority were revised by the Competent Authority in one case.

Maintenance of Raj Ghat

1955. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
MISS MABEL REBELLO:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that the black marble slab covering the final resting ground and Mahatma Gandhi has developed cracks and the famous spongy ""Raj Ghat Grass" is gradually disappearing;

(b) whether there has been no major renovation for nearly four decades except for small patch up work off and on;

(c) whether the complex has shrunk from 84 acres to 50 acres;

(d)whether the fund allocated by Government for Samadhi is spent on meeting establishment cost and paying salaries; and

(e) if so, what Govenment are doing in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) Over the past four decades, Rajghat Samadhi has been maintained/ managed by the Rajghat Samadhi Committee. The Central Government have been providing annual grant to the said Committee. Its present amount is Rs. 90 lakh.

It is a fact that no major renovation has been done for the best several years and the present conditions of grass, water bodies and general upkeep are not what they should be for a monument of this structure.

(c) Yes, Sir. 34 acres of land of the complex has been utilised for development of other Samadhis, such as Kisan Ghat, Shakti Sthal and Vir Bhoomi.

(d) and (e) The Government have taken up the matter with the Chairperson of the Rajghat Samadhi and would take whatever steps are necessary to improve the conditions in all its aspects.

Insanitary condition in Metropolitan Cities

1956. SHRI KRISHANA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has expressed its serious concern over the insanitary conditions in the metropolitan cities in the country;

(b) whether Government propose to constitute a committee to the highly insanitary condition and inadequate measures for the disposal of solid wastes in the metropolitan cities; and

(c) if so, by when the committee would complete its study in this regard and suggest measures to save the cities from insanitary condition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) yes, Sir. The Supreme Court expressed serious concern over the insanitary conditions in the metropolitan cities during the course of hearing of the Writ Petition (Civil) No. 888/96 filed by Ms. Almitra H. Patel against the Union of India, all State Governments and others regarding the deteriorating state of solid waste management in the country.

(b) and (c) In pursuance of the directions of the Supreme Court dated 16.1.98, the Government had constituted a Committee under the chairmanship of the Commissioner, Calcutta Municipal Corporation to look into various aspects of solid waste managemnet in Class I cities in the country and to recommed measures for improving the situation. The Committee in its reports dated 25.3.99 had recommended several measures, including the constitution of a Technology Mission by the Government for improving solid waste management practices within five years. As per directions of the Supreme Court, the Committee's report was considered by the Government and it was decided to constitute a Technology Advisory Group under the chairmanship of the Advisor, Central Public Health & Environmental Engineering Organisation (CPHEEO) in the Ministry of Urban Development and consisting of